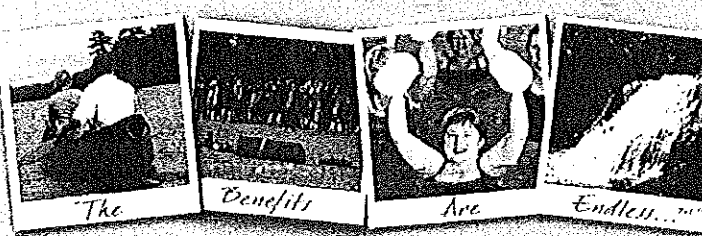


## CONNECTICUT RECREATION AND PARKS ASSOCIATION



PUBLIC HEARING – February 25, 2013

Environment Committee

H.B. No. 6438 (Raised) An Act Restricting The Use Of Methoprene and Resmethrin – **OPPOSED**  
(Needs Clarification)

S.B. No. 914 (Raised) An Act Concerning The Application of Pesticides at Municipal Parks –  
**OPPOSED**

S.B. No. 916 (Raised) An Act Authorizing Civil Penalties For The Faulty, Careless or Negligent  
Application of Pesticides – Needs Clarification – **NEED CLARIFICATION**

S.B. No. 917 (Raised) An Act Authorizing The Use Of Certain Microbial and Biochemical Pesticides  
And Grub Control Products On School Grounds - **OPPOSED**

H.B. No. 6440 (Raised) An Act Concerning Municipalities And The Application Of Lawn Care  
Pesticides - **OPPOSED**

Dear Honorable Members of The Environment Committee,

I am the Glastonbury Park Superintendent representing the Town of Glastonbury and the CT Recreation and Parks Association (CRPA) in my opposition to several bills, beginning with HB 6438. With over 600 members from 122 of the State's 169 municipalities, we speak in one voice in support of legislation based on research, education and science. In that vein, all roads point to Integrated Pest Management (IPM), not to the bills being discussed today.

Relative to the mosquito problem, and HB 6438, and all these bills, including SB 914, SB 916, SB 917, and HB 6440, we stand opposed to them and to the perceived need to annually return to the legislation to manage an industry and Town grounds. The State of CT has a competent professional agency to regulate the use of specific pesticides, the DEEP. The legislature should indeed have guiding principles in place for this agency, just as the federal government has for the EPA. However, one would hope it would not take an act of Congress or of the CT Legislature to adjust to changes in a field where policy should be based on sound science. New products and new information are constantly appearing, which necessitates a fluid policy. Legislative bans of individual products or whole sectors are not the answer, nor are the approvals of singular proprietary products.

We urge this Committee and this Legislature to put more trust in its agencies, in science, and in its Research University and the Agricultural Experiment Station. The answer is in IPM. Integrated Pest Management is renowned internationally and was developed by educators, researchers and scientists

around the world. In fact, Perry Adkisson and Ray Smith received the prestigious World Food Prize, specifically for their research and education in the field of IPM. A background on the World Food Prize is attached.

In the 1999 report, "Pest Control Practices in Connecticut Public Schools" found at this link: (<http://www.ehhi.org/reports/pestschools/>), IPM is recommended as the most effective way to improve safety and pest control at the schools. Further, on page 21 of the report, there are 8 strong recommendations on how to reduce pesticide exposure at schools. They are guiding principles, and have been adopted by this Legislature, every one of them. Well done! I might also note that none of those recommendations were ever opposed by the CRPA, the Town of Glastonbury or me. They are all based on good, sound science.

HB 6440 would allow each Town to regulate their own pesticide policy on private property. The question begs asking, how is it, that in one bill, this Committee proposes to dictate to Towns, how they should manage their own Park properties uniformly, but then in the same hearing, proposes that those same Towns would be the best arbiter of private and commercial properties within their boundaries. Further, where is the expertise in these Towns to develop and weigh these regulations, not to mention enforcement?

In closing, IPM is based on sound science, is the best path, and is supported by the State's own research university, UCONN, its Agricultural Experiment Station, DEEP, EPA, and CRPA, and by virtue of submitted testimony, a powerful environmental advocacy group called Environment and Health, Inc. It is science based and internationally acclaimed. Let research, education and science carry the day, and please consult with our own experts and academics before letting kneejerk reactions and fringe groups dictate policy.

Sincerely,

Gregory A. Foran

Parks Superintendent

Town of Glastonbury

2155 Main Street

Glastonbury, CT 06033

860-652-7686

gregory.foran@glastonbury-ct.gov



THE WORLD  
FOOD PRIZE

## About the Prize

SHARE

THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE is the foremost International award recognizing -- without regard to race, religion, nationality, or political beliefs -- the achievements of individuals who have advanced human development by improving the quality, quantity or availability of food in the world.

The Prize recognizes contributions in any field involved in the world food supply -- food and agriculture science and technology, manufacturing, marketing, nutrition, economics, poverty alleviation, political leadership and the social sciences.

The World Food Prize emphasizes the importance of a nutritious and sustainable food supply for all people. By honoring those who have worked successfully toward this goal, The Prize calls attention to what has been done to improve global food security and to what can be accomplished in the future.

Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 for his work in world agriculture, envisioned a prize that would honor those who have made significant and measurable contributions to improving the world's food supply. Beyond recognizing these people for their personal accomplishments, Borlaug saw The Prize as a means of establishing role models who would inspire others. His vision was realized when The World Food Prize was created in 1986.

MORE VIDEOS AVAILABLE HERE

Since then, The World Food Prize has honored outstanding individuals who have made vital contributions to improving the quality, quantity, or availability of food throughout the world. Laureates have been recognized from countries around the world, including Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Cuba, Denmark, Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United Nations and the United States.

The World Food Prize is sponsored by businessman and philanthropist John Ruan and is located in Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Ruan stepped forward to endow The Prize in 1990 when its first sponsor withdrew. Without Mr. Ruan's generosity, The Prize and Dr. Borlaug's vision could not have continued. Today John Ruan's son, Mr. John Ruan III, has succeeded his father as chairman of the World Food Prize. The Foundation's president is Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn. A Council of Advisors provides guidance and support.

The World Food Prize Youth Institute was established in 1994 by The World Food Prize Foundation. The primary goal of the Institute is to increase awareness of The World Food Prize mission among Iowa youth. Through the application process, students and their mentor teachers (one student/teacher team per high school) are selected to attend the annual three-day Youth Institute in October. These schools represent a cross-section throughout the state, including large and small, urban and rural communities.

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